

**Macon County Board of Commissioners
Courthouse Commissioner's Meeting Room**

Regular Meeting
March 1, 2022
6:00 p.m.

Present: Commissioner Chairman Carl Oliver
Commissioner Vice-Chairman Bob Melvin
Commissioner A. Richmond Felton
Commissioner Benjamin Haugabook, Sr.
Commissioner Mickey George
Kelvin C. Lewis, County Manager
Roselyn Starling, Deputy County Manager
Satina S. James, Deputy County Clerk
Jon Coogle, County Attorney

Commissioner-Chairman Oliver called the meeting to order. Vice-Chairman Melvin gave the invocation.

Chairman Oliver called for a motion to approve minutes. Commissioner George made the motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2022, regular meeting as presented. Commissioner Haugabook seconded the motion and the vote carried unanimously.

Invited Guest: None

Chairman Oliver asked the board to consider adding two items to the agenda. Vice-Chairman Melvin requested to add as Old Business, no. 1, for discussion "Recreation Advisory Board" and Commissioner George requested to add as new business, no. 5, for discussion "AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities". Chairman Oliver called for a motion. Vice-Chairman Melvin made a motion to add to the agenda "Recreation Advisory Board" and "AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities" for discussion as requested. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Haugabook. Commissioners voted and the motion carried unanimously.

Committee/Department Reports:

1. County Manager Update:

County Manager Lewis asked Commissioners their preference of Regular Meetings or Work Session meetings for County Department Leaders to attend and give updates in their departments. Commissioners decided that the work session meetings are preferred and suggested a tentative schedule as follows: April 27- Elections; May 11 - Sheriff; June 8 -Tax Commissioner; July 27 - Parks and Recreation; August 31 -Public Works and September 28-EMS.

County Manager Lewis reported that Flint Energies has been awarded over \$25 million for broadband initiatives. He believes Macon County will benefit from these awarded monies as we partnered with Flint Energies for their rural broadband State of Georgia application.

Senator Harbison has confirmed that redistricting maps submitted by the Board of Commissioners have been approved in both houses. County Manager Lewis has been in constant communication with the Elections Superintendent with focus on assuring that the precincts align with the district maps, down to the street level. He said the Elections Superintendent should be equipped with all the information she needs to have precinct and district map alignment. New maps are not expected to apply until January 1, 2023.

County Manager Lewis is scheduled to attend ACCG Legislative Breakfast on March 9-10, 2022. He has meetings with Representative Patty Bentley and Senator Ed Harbison.

County Manager Lewis has begun organizational assessments on personnel for compensation alignment. He has started with Public Works. EMS will be the next department of focus.

Consent Agenda: None

Old Business:

1. Recreation Advisory Board:

Vice-Chairman Melvin asked County Manager Lewis to get with the local municipalities and assure that with the recent changes in their administrations they have a representative to serve on the Recreation Advisory Board. He also requested that he communicate with the municipalities to schedule a Recreation Advisory Board meeting as soon as possible. Commissioners also discussed the need to expand the activities at the Recreation Department to include Seniors and other groups.

New Business:

1. Approval of Tax Commissioner Drive-Thru Window

Chairman Oliver called for a motion. Commissioner Felton made a motion to approve the submitted proposal from Diebold Nixdorf's in the amount of \$12,690.00 to be paid out SPLOST funds for operating the Drive-Thru Window at the Court House Annex Complex for the Tax Commissioners office. The motion was seconded by Commissioner George. Commissioners voted and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Approval/Rejections of bids for Brooks Road Fire Station

County Manager Lewis asked the Board of Commissioners to reject all current bids submitted for Brooks Road Fire Station to give him the opportunity to present a new bid package. He said the present bid package did not facilitate bid responses for equal comparisons. He has a new bid package format that will encompass all the work needed for the Fire Station. Chairman Oliver called for a motion. Vice-Chairman Melvin made a motion to reject all current bids submitted for Brooks Road Fire Station. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Felton. Commissioners voted on the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Commissioners then discussed the need to have detailed specs for Brooks Road Fire Station, that potential contractors have a clear picture of what they are bidding on. Commissioners would also like to have an idea of the project cost. Commissioners asked Attorney Coogle to get written clearance from the Covenant group to build the fire station on the designated site. Attorney Coogle agreed to pursue. County Manager agreed to put together more bid details.

3. Approval/ to move forward with Engine Braking Ordinance

Chairman Oliver called for a motion. Vice-Chairman Melvin made a motion to approve moving forward with Engine Braking Ordinance 2022-1. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Felton. Commissioners asked who would be responsible for signage and other items. State Representative Bentley said the State will be responsible. Commissioners voted and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Works Compensation Discussion

County Manager Lewis asked the Board of Commissioners to increase wages for Brian McDonald, employee at Public Works Department. McDonald's current wage is \$13.74 per hour. County Manager Lewis requested an increase in wage to \$17.00 per hour; based on McDonald's credentials (licensed mechanic, CDL, Hazmat certification, Equipment Operator). Chairman Oliver called for a motion. Commissioner Felton made a motion to approve increasing Brian McDonald's wages to \$17.00 per hour. Vice-Chairman Melvin seconded the motion. Commissioners then discussed possible adjustments to McDonald's job description, title and position associated with the pay increase. Commissioners also discussed overall employee wage increase based on credentials and employee cross training. Commissioners voted and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Approval/discussion AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities

Commissioner George presented a letter and certificate from AARP enrolling Macon County in the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities. The County's enrollment provides possible assistance through counselors and programs with building an age friendly community from AARP.

Public Comments: None

Adjourn:

There being no further business, Chairman Oliver called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Haugabook made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Felton seconded the motion. Commissioners voted on the motion and the motion carried unanimously.


Carl Oliver